

With over 4 billion gallons of imported oil coming through Texas ports each month, our state has a unique responsibility to prevent and clean up oil spills. That's a charge we take seriously at the Texas General Land Office. The Land Office Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program was created in 1991 to take on this special mission and has grown into an internationally recognized model for coastal protection.

The mission of the team is simple: Educate, Prevent and Respond. This entails educating the public and the petrochemical industry about the danger of oil spills, taking measures to prevent even the smallest spills, and when spills do occur, responding immediately to protect the coast—day or night. Because even the smallest amount of oil in our bays and estuaries can be devastating to fish, shrimp and other marine life.

As steward to 13 million acres of state-owned land, including 4 million acres of submerged land and Gulf Coast shoreline, in any given year, our dedicated team responds to 700 to 800 oil spill calls. The team is firehouse-response ready and has staged response equipment at high traffic and environmentally sensitive locations all along the Texas coast. Through prevention education, community outreach and enforcement, the Oil Spill Prevention and Response team works daily to strike a balance between supporting vital petrochemical industries and protecting the fragile coastal environment. With hard work, Texas can enjoy a pristine coast for generations to come.

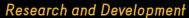


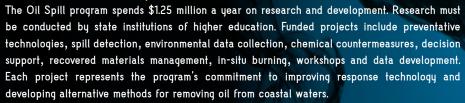
Commissioner, Texas General Land Office



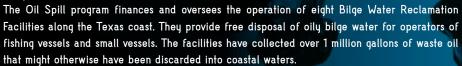
Compliance

Oil Spill Prevention and Response requires that all maritime facilities that handle oil, and many vessels operating in Texas waters, have oil spill contingency plans. The plans detail strategies for spill response, and list trained response personnel and inventories of spill response equipment. More than 600 facilities and 1,700 vessel operators have accounts with the Land Office.



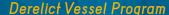


Bilge Water Reclamation Facilities



Discharge Cleanup Organization

One way to ensure the most effective oil spill response is for private response contractors to become certified by the Land Office before the spill occurs. The Discharge Cleanup Organization (DCO) program allows companies and organizations involved in the oil spill recovery industry to become certified by the Land Office as eligible for hire during an oil spill cleanup.

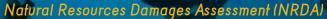


In 2005, the Texas Legislature granted greater authority to the Land Commissioner to remove and dispose of derelict vessels and structures on the Texas coast. It is now a Class A misdemeanor, with fines and/or jail time, to intentionally abandon a vessel or structure in state waters. The Texas General Land Office has developed a program in cooperation with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and local coastal governments to identify and facilitate the removal of vessels and structures that pose a spill threat, are a hazard to human health, safety and welfare, or pose threats to navigation or the environment.

Scientific Support

The Oil Spill program has designed and placed eight offshore buoys that provide vital real-time information on the speed and direction of sea currents. Known as the Texas Automated Buoy System, the buoys feed information into computer-based trajectory models that accurately predict the movement of oil on the water's surface. This allows strategic positioning of response equipment.

For over 10 years, the program has offered an updated version of the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program Toolkit. This indispensable aid contains all three Area Contingency Plans, the Upper and Lower Coast Response Atlases, the Field Operation Guide, Incident Command System forms and more. The toolkit provides critical response-planning data for industry, spill response contractors and government agencies. It can be found within the Caring for the Coast section of the Land Office website at www.glo.texas.gov and is available on DVD free of charge.



NRDA is the legal and technical process to pursue restoration for injuries to natural resources caused by discharges of oil and releases of hazardous materials into the environment. Federal and state agencies and Native American Tribal governments may be designated as NRDA Trustees to act on behalf of the public to restore injured natural resources. The NRDA Trustee agencies in Texas include the Texas General Land Office, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. NRDA was created by federal statutes following the Exxon-Valdez oil spill in March 1989. Many states have enacted statutes under state law to support the NRDA process. The governor of each state designates the NRDA Trustee(s).

please don't spoil our coast

To report spills, call 1.800.832.8224 www.glo.texas.gov

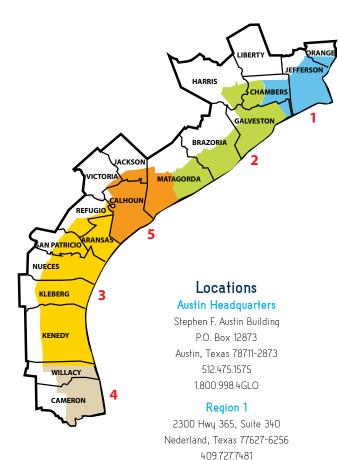












Region 2

11811 North D Street La Porte, Texas 77571-9135 281.470.6597

Region 3

Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi Natural Resources Center 6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5847 Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5847 361.825.3300

Region 4

2145 EMS Lane Brownsville, Texas 78521-2666 956.504.1417

Region 5

414 Travis Street
Port Lavaca, Texas 77979
361.552.8081

For More Information

Please call one of the five field offices or the main office of the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program, or visit our website at www.glo.texas.gov.

Career Opportunities

Current job openings in the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program are posted on the Texas General Land Office website at www.glo.texas.gov. Qualification requirements vary by position.

Prevent Oil Spills

Most oil spills are caused by inattention on the part of persons either at work, fueling their boats, or through intentional acts. Please pay close attention to fuel transfer procedures and immediately report any discharge of fuel into Texas coastal waters.

A Texas-Sized Problem

An estimated 140,000 gallons of unauthorized discharges enter our state's coastal waters every year.

Small Spills Hurt

Even tiny amounts of oil are toxic to marine life and vegetation. A gallon of oil can kill half of the exposed fish and shrimp larvae in one million gallons of water.

Keep Coastal Waters Clean

Many Texans earn a living from fishing and tourism. It is vital for our future that we continually work to protect Texas' natural resources along the coast for generations to come.

To Report Discharges

If you see an unauthorized discharge of oil in Texas coastal waters, immediately call the Texas General Land Office at 1.800.832.8224.

The Texas General Land Office does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. To request special accommodations, call the Director of Human Resources/ADA Coordinator at 512.475.1390. To contact us by TDD call 512.463.5330 or through RELAY Texas at 1.800.735.2988, or mail your request to P.O. Box 12873, Austin, Texas 78711-2873. March 2011

